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Letter of Protest

Date: * September 03, 2011

In Docket * 2011 - 22L - E

Protestant Information:

Name: * Suzanne KGise

Mailing Address * 11 Litten Dr.

City, State Zip * Olveston, SC, 29907 Phone * 803-241-2441

E-mail * olveston@earthlink.net

1. What is your connection or interest in this case? * For example, are you a customer of the Company that is the subject of this pending proceeding? (This section must be completed. Attach additional information if necessary.)

I am a customer of Duke Energy.

2. Please give a concise statement of your protest. * (This section must be completed. Attach additional information if necessary.)

See attached.

3. Do you wish to make an appearance at a hearing in this proceeding; if scheduled, and offer sworn testimony? * (This section should be completed.)

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My husband and I are retirees and our only income is from the South Carolina State Retirement System and my husband's Social Security. In 2011, my husband received no raise from Social Security and from the S.C. State Retirement System, we received only a 1.7% cost of living raise. In the meantime, the price of gasoline and food has increased dramatically. Between the cost of food, gasoline and medical bills, my husband and I are just barely able to buy adequate amounts of food. We cannot afford a 17% increase in energy prices.

There are many, many other South Carolinians like ourselves who are experiencing very difficult financial straits at this time. The timing for Duke Energy to ask for such a large rate increase could not be worse, especially on the heels of their large profits from last year. We ask you to please reject Duke Energy's rate hike request. A rate hike of 17% would be disastrous to so many South Carolinians at this time.